

# THE YOUNG WORKER

Official Organ of the Young Workers League of America  
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## YOUTH LABOR FLOODS METAL -- AUTO SHOPS

### Increase of Youth Labor in Michigan Metal and Automobile Factories Shows Up Important Union Work

By MAX SHACHTMAN.  
The prevalence of youth labor in the metal, machinery and automobile industry of Michigan, can be seen as one of the main reasons for the absence of trade union organization in these notoriously open shop industries, according to a detailed report just made public by able investigators. The report shows that young workers are replacing the adults, not only in the unskilled crafts, but also in the skilled and even in the highly skilled. Such jobs as assistant chemist, machine molder, core maker, acetylene and electric welder, millwright, machine operator, internal and external grinder, brake and cable adjuster, gasoline engine erector, inspectors and numerous other jobs that used to be considered the exclusive work of adults with years of training and experience, are now being taken by young workers between the ages of 14 and 21.

Michigan, and especially the city of Detroit, is well known as one of the least organized union localities in the country, the metal trades and automobile industry being particularly weak. Such a once powerful trade union as the International Association of Machinists, for example, is now at but a shadow of its former strength, due to a large extent to the large influx of young workers, who supplant their older brothers.

The young workers are recruited largely from the farms and from among the foreign-born youth and the comparatively higher wages they receive is calculated by the big employers to keep them from organizing for real living wages and better conditions.

The cost of living, however, forces the young workers to seek higher wages and the lack of opportunity drives them from the metal manufacturing slave pens after a short time. Most of the young workers leave the factories after holding the job for an average of two and a half years, because of the lack of chance for advancement, either in position or wages, and because of the long hours, which run higher than 60 hours per week in many cases. The wages are pitifully low when the cost of living and the dangers of the work are considered. The average wage is less than 50 cents an hour and the dangers to life, health and limb are tremendous.

Youths, just out of school, and many of them not even having a public school education, are drawn into the factories without any consideration being given to their future life or education.

Many of them are turned out by the scab nests which are called by the sweet sounding names of "vocational training" or "industrial schools." In Saginaw there are two high schools (the Saginaw and the Arthur Hill), which give a four-year vocational training for young workers. Lansing, Flint and Bay City have similar institutions. In Detroit, the Cass Technical high school is the preparation school for young workers who are to break down the conditions of work and wages of the workers in general. Of 449 youths in a typical group of the Boys' continuation school of Detroit, 332 were preparing for the metal and automobile industries.

Added to this, is the illegal employment of many of the "minors" in hazardous work. In one year, 13 were killed, 223 lost a limb or part of one, and over 1,200 were involved in accidents which necessitated their absence from work for anywhere between two weeks and a year. These figures are only for the manufacturing industries and do not take into account the young workers in agricultural, mining, quarrying, transportation and other work. Another fact to consider is that these figures are for the year 1918, since which time the percentage of young workers has increased.

February "Young Comrade" Out.  
The February number of The Young Comrade, official organ of the junior section of the Young Workers League of America, has just been issued from the press and is one of the best issues yet printed.

The February number is a special Liebknecht edition and it explains to the kiddies the significance of Liebknecht Day in language that they will understand. There is an excellent story on "Who Was Spartacus?" which is sure to inspire any child with the spirit of a rebel. The cover cut is unique and was specially drawn for the children's paper.

The rest of the paper is filled with stories and articles by children, a dandy Johnny Red story by Bill Sayles and cartoons galore. Five cents per copy! That's all! Bundle rates, 3 cents each. And for individual comrades, a subscription of 50 cents per year would be just about right. Send in the money NOW to The Young Comrade, 1000 N. State St., Chicago, Ill.

Non-Union Jams Get It in the Neck.  
EDMONTON.—Unorganized girls employed in laundries, retail stores and manufacturers in this city have had a practical illustration of the value of trade unions by a wage reduction of \$1.50 a week, ordered by the minimum wage board.

### To All Readers of the International of Youth and the Y.C.I. Review

Comrades—  
By closing the publishing house of the Young International, General Secret, the instrument of Stines & Co., has attempted to prevent the publication of our magazine. The regular publication of the league with our magazine had, therefore, to be interrupted. The Executive Committee has immediately taken steps to insure their continued publication. The November issue of the "International of Youth" (German edition) and the December issue of the Young Communist International Review (German edition), which were in print at the time of the closing of the publishing house, will appear in a few days. On the 15th of January a double number of the "International of Youth" (December-January, German edition) will be published. From then it will appear regularly.

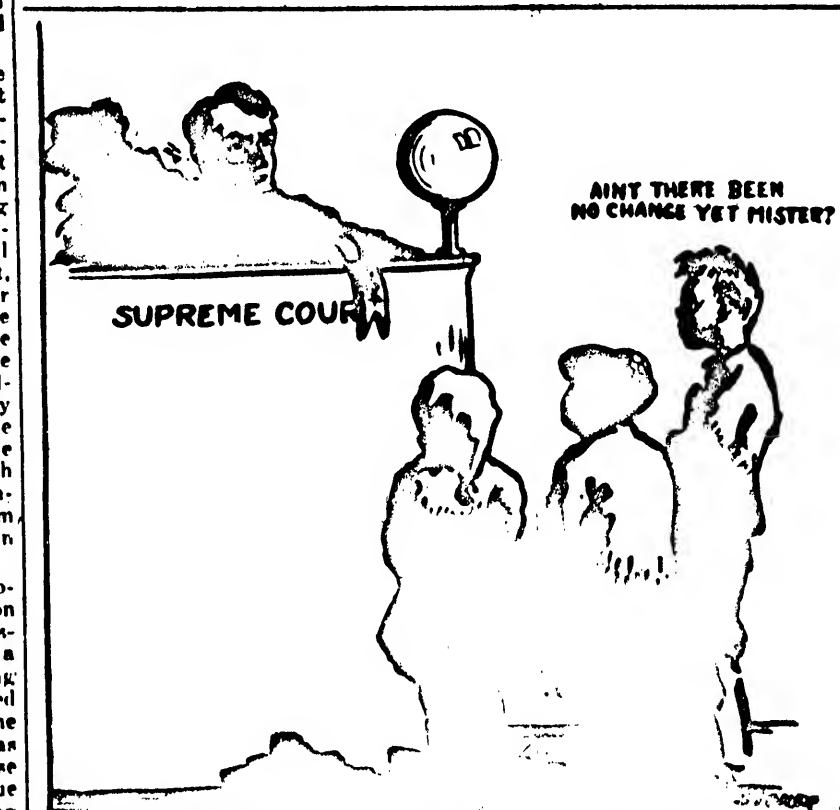
The publication of the English edition of the "International of Youth," the Young Communist International Review and the Bulletin for Leaders of Children's Groups is guaranteed by printing it outside of Germany.

We are convinced that the readers of our magazine and our membership will answer the attempt of the dictatorship of the white generals with even greater faith in their organs and with an intensified propaganda for them.

Every Communist wins a new reader—that must be the answer of the young Communist to General Secret.

Down with the white dictatorship in Germany!  
Long live the international militant organ of the young workers and peasants, the "International of Youth!"

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF  
THE YOUNG COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL.  
Moscow, December, 1923.



Workers! Are You Going to Let Your Children Appeal to Capitalist Courts to Save Them From Children Slavery When This Power Rests in Your Hands?

### Youth Get Attention of Workers Party Convention

By MARTIN ABERN.  
The third National Convention of the Workers Party gave strong endorsement to the struggle of the Workers Party for the formation of a class labor party, endorsed the work of the industrial department, laid out a policy for an aggressive campaign for the protection of the foreign-born workers, and formulated a policy for the campaign against the strongly developing militarism of America.

The details of the report on the labor party policy, industrial and other major campaigns of the Party can be read by the comrades in the Daily Worker, now being published. The Young Workers League came in for considerable attention at this convention, and fullest support to the Young Workers League for the future was indicated by the statements of the young communist movement, as represented by the Young Workers League of America, was recognized as forming a broad basis for the development of the Workers Party in future years.

The League was represented by three delegates, at this convention in Chicago, December 30, 31st, and January 1st: comrades Martin Abern, executive secretary, John Edwards, and John Williamson, members of the national executive committee.

In the report by Martin Abern to the convention, he pointed out the swift growth of the League since the second National convention of the Young Workers League, June, 1923. "We have gained," he said, "nearly 1,000 new members in the Minnesota-Michigan-Wisconsin territory, in the mining sections of Southern Illinois."

Pittsburgh Manufacturer Sees New World War Coming Soon

PITTSBURGH.—"Another war seems inevitable," declared a statement distributed with its price card by C. A. Turner & Co., makers of mine and mill supplies and heavy hardware. "We believed we fought the last war to make the world safe for democracy and to end wars but we were fooled; in reality we fought to prevent Germany from wresting the commercial and military supremacy of the world from England. England is willing to fight again rather than let France keep the Ruhr, so another war seems inevitable. We alone are able to finance this threatened war, so we find the 'heroes' of France and England traveling thru our country on special trains making a bid for our support."

Don't stand on the outside looking in; come in and fight!

### Washington Busy Preparing War Machinery; Sec'y of War Reports Big Growth in American Militarism

By HARRY GANNES.  
Every day in Washington, the war department is preparing for the successful mobilization of the young workers of this country in the citizen's military training camps in the summer time. This is but one of the details that is occupying the slaughter bureau which already spends 85 cents out of every dollar collected by taxes by the United States government.

Most astounding, however, is the advance report of the Secretary of War which points out the mushroom growth of the military forces of the United States. The imperialist position of the United States has forced it to turn itself into a military machine.

The army and naval forces are growing beyond all previous proportions. The following figures taken from the report for 1924 of the Secretary of War give a vivid picture of the growing military octopus that is being pampered by American capitalists:

"During the past ten years, while the cost of national defense has been doubled, the regular army has increased its actual total strength from 92,035 to 132,834, the national guard from 120,402 to 160,598, the organized reserves from 0 to 78,339, and the total of the army of the United States from 212,000 to 371,770. . . .

In the citizen's military training camps from 0 to 31,000, and the reserve of individuals under training has thus increased from 243,865 to 504,010. From April 15, 1910, to Jan. 1, 1920, the persons in military and naval service stations abroad rose from 55,000 to 117,235. . . . When it is remembered that three billion dollars are invested already in this country in naval equipment, and especially the youth.

### Students Scab On Southern Typo. Union

ASHEVILLE, N. C.—The use of young students from the non-union typewriting school at Asen, Ga., to break the strike of typewriters on the two open shop dailies in Asheville, is another instance of the growing use of young workers in industry and the necessity of American labor adopting a program for the organization of young workers into the trade unions similar to the one proposed by the Young Workers League of America, which is foremost in this campaign.

The typewriters, members of International Typographical Union, Local 283, struck on the two dailies when the owners of the two papers refused to arbitrate a new wage scale with the 35 men involved. The young scabs were brought in by a firm of rats known as McCone and Flagg, which operates in the name of the notorious Open Shop Publishers' association.

### Secretary Visits Ohio League

Martin Abern, secretary of the Young Workers League, is making a tour of the Ohio territory to aid in the overthrowing of some of the newly organized branches in that district. Abern will be in Cleveland on Liebknecht Day, Jan. 20th, to speak at the mass meeting arranged by the young workers in that city in commemoration of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg. Before going to Cleveland, the secretary will stop off at Dillonvale, Pa., on Jan. 19, for a meeting with the comrades there; he is also expected to visit Youngstown on Jan. 21, following which Warren, Young Ohio and East Liverpool may expect a call.

### U. S. Army Perfects Huge Murder Machine

WASHINGTON.—Army ordinance experts have developed what they believe to be the heaviest and most powerful gun of its type in the world. The new weapon is of the 14-inch, 50 calibre type, and is a post-war development. It is capable of hurling an armor-piercing projectile of 1,500 pounds for a distance of 23 miles and can be mounted on wheeled carriages and drawn along railroad tracks.

There are numerous other features of this gun which make it a very important piece of ordnance in the event of a war. This huge murder machine will be used to now down hundreds of young workers or to break down the structure of entire cities. The gun may also undoubtedly be used some day for the purpose of subduing unruly labor unionists, as was the case with airplanes when the West Virginia miners went out to defend their lives, homes and families.

It should be pointed out that the making of these guns is intended to involve the deaths of innumerable young workers who will be sent to defend the profits of the capitalists who own this country.

### Negro Editor Is For Organization of All U.S. Young Workers

(Continued Service.)  
CHICAGO.—That the working class negroes of this country are endorsing the stand of The Young Workers League of America in maintaining a united front of white and negro youth in the face of the united exploiters of this country, is evidenced by a letter written to the editor of The Whip, negro paper here, by Ed. Ryan, editor of Ryan's Weekly and negro member of the state legislature of Washington. In his communication Ryan writes:

"My Dear Editor:  
"I am inspired to write you by reason of a cut appearing in the Defender of December 18, entitled 'Erasing Color Prejudice.' It has occurred to me that this group of the Young Workers' League would make a fine start toward building a militant political organization.

"For more than thirty years I have been considered radical, and am now, as you may be aware, a member of the Washington legislature, representing the Farmer-Labor group. At present I am serving my second term, having been re-elected in 1922 with an increased majority.

"In my district, there are approximately 10,000 voters, plus 140 of which are negroes. In both elections I led my ticket notwithstanding that both of my colleagues on the Farmer-Labor ticket were white men.

"My only reason for detailing this to you is to point out the fact that among the organized working groups there is no race prejudice and the motto of the Young Workers League of Chicago, 'There is but one race, the human race,' is not a mere play on words.

Yours respectfully  
J. H. RYAN,  
Editor Ryan's Weekly."

### Ex. Secretary Fall Gets Rich Quick in Deal of Shady Name

WASHINGTON.—Startling revelations have marked the recent hearings of the senate committee investigating the leasing of naval oil reserves to private companies by former Secretary of the Interior Albert B. Fall. While in 1920, Fall told people that he was broke, he has since spent over \$100,000 for various things, with Harry Sinclair, rich oil magnate, hanging around the vicinity quite conspicuously.

It has been pretty well proved in the committee that the secretary of the Interior leased to personal friends government property of fabulous value, then resigned his office and accepted employment from them. Both Sinclair and Doheny obtained him as a legal adviser after his retirement.

Absolutely nothing is being done to Fall for what looks to every one like a misuse with criminal intent of an official government position. One of the reasons why the senate commission is not too anxious to have Fall put on trial is undoubtedly their interests do not lie that way. Fall, who seems to be a crook in this case is let go free. When workers stood up for their rights during the war, they were immediately sent to jail for periods of 10 to 20 years.



## Unemployment Forces High School Kids to Quit Studies

WASHINGTON.—Five hundred and sixty-one of every thousand boys and girls who enter high school leave before completing their four-year courses in the information just issued by the United States Department of the Interior.

It is a well-known fact that the majority of the students who leave the high schools are children of workers who, because of low wages or loss of work, are forced to send their children to work in order to help support themselves.

All sorts of plans are being offered by the government officials to keep the children in school, but none of them can work when the parents are unable to provide the shoes and clothing and the food necessary to keep the children in school.

With the growing unemployment, wage cuts, loss of union membership, the number of children that will be forced to leave not alone the high schools but as well the public schools will rapidly increase. Not very long ago government bulletins showed a rapid increase in the number of child laborers, in some cities the number having risen 36 per cent.

So far as the workers are concerned this condition is a vicious circle. Wages already being lowered, are forced down still faster when the kids take the jobs of some of the men in the factories or offices.

The organization of the children who are inevitably forced into production in a point that should not be overlooked by the local, national and international unions everywhere in the United States.

## Canonsburg, Pa.-Labor Passes Correct Union Organization Resolution

(Special to "The Young Worker")  
CANONSBURG, Pa.—A recognition of the necessity of the unionization of the unorganized young workers of this country marked the last session of the Canonsburg Central Labor Union, situated in the heart of the mining section of Pennsylvania. The sentiments of organized labor in that city were expressed in the following resolution:

Whereas, A modern civilization compels the American youth to seek a livelihood in industry; and

Whereas, The development of mass production and subdivision of labor as now practiced in the factories, does not offer the favorable conditions for organization which existed under the old craft system; and

Whereas, The present industrial system produces a type of youth that is influenced by the propaganda of open shoppers of the employing class, youth that furnishes man power that makes up the militia and other militarist organizations, that are to be frequently used against labor in the struggle for existence; therefore be it resolved, That the Canonsburg Central Labor Union call upon the American Federation of Labor to institute a campaign to organize and educate the American youth and establish the necessary machinery to insistently carry on its task.

The resolution is signed by the secretaries of the central body, James C. Strong and Pat H. Tooley, the latter being an active member of the Young Workers League of America. The resolution is in accord with the campaign initiated by the Young Workers League for the organization of the young workers into the trade unions for the purpose of protecting the hours, wages and conditions of the youth and to prevent them from scabbing on the already organized adult labor unions.

The Young Workers League members in the vicinity of Chartiers Valley (Canonsburg) are active members of the unions, some of them holding important official positions in them.

## First Issue of Daily Worker Out

CHICAGO.—The first issue of "The Daily Worker" was presented at a mass meeting of the Workers Party held for \$35.00. It had the signatures of Jim Cannon, chairman of the Workers Party, and C. E. Ruthenberg, executive secretary. Max Salsman spoke for the Young Workers League.

## 32,000 Child Slaves in Louisiana Causes Weak Labor Movement There

NEW ORLEANS.—There are 32,000 child slaves and 36,000 illiterate in Louisiana. Dr. Owen Lovejoy, of the capitalist national child labor committee, told an audience here. It is significant that the state of Louisiana, and the city of New Orleans are very weak in labor union strength, one of the main reasons being the prevalence of child labor and the lack of educational opportunities for the working class and their children.

## BRITISH Y. C. L. ISSUES LIEBKNECHT BOOKLET

The Young Communist League of Great Britain has just issued a 74-page booklet in commemoration of Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg.

This is considered the best publication of its kind in the English language, containing the last articles written by these martyrs as well as other interesting features.

There are but few copies available. The price set by the British League is fifty cents per copy.

Be a YOUNG WORKER booster and help the League.

## War Vets Laugh at Fake Legion Bonus Meet

CHICAGO.—Horse laughs and comic cries of pain greeted the mention of the names of President Coolidge and his official pocketbook keeper, the Secretary of the Treasury, at a mass meeting arranged by war vets to discuss the bonus question.

No amount of poison gas could drive the ex-soldiers under cover. They demanded and got the floor to ask very embarrassing questions which were not answered by the official representatives of the capitalist class at the meetings, the officers of the American Legion.

Nothing resulted from the meeting. The speakers on the platform pointed to Washington for relief, when the soldiers themselves know that nothing can be expected from the bunch of dispirited lawyers lolling their time away in the booze capital.

The vets present, who had felt the sting of shrapnel and the pangs of bayonets, some of whom had lost an arm or a leg, were disappointed at the fake comedy staged as a prelude to the coming bonus sell-out at Washington.

Berry, president of the International Pressman's Union, known for aiding the New York capitalist newspapers (the foremost anti-bonus fighters in the country) break the pressmen's strike recently, spoke on behalf of "labor." Berry is a member of the Legion.

The meeting showed that the mass of ex-soldiers are disgusted with the American Legion, especially in the handling of the bonus issue and that they feel cheated thru the manipulations of the capitalist legislators, aided by the yellow press.

Two thousand leaflets were distributed by the Chicago Young Workers League at this meeting calling upon the ex-soldiers not to be led into any future wars now being prepared by American capitalism.

## 2 Year Old Babies Forced to Slave in New York City

By JOSEPH NARBRIK.

(Special to "The Young Worker")  
NEW YORK CITY.—Testimony presented to the sessions of the New York Welfare Commission here today brought out the horrible facts that little babies who should still be held in the protecting arms of their mothers are obliged to work in the tenements of New York, the richest city of the world. Some of the babies are only 2 years old, and some idea of the conditions of their families can be gained when it is shown that of the 2,000 families investigated by the commission, most of them were found to be with a yearly income of not more than 3 and 4 hundred dollars.

This figure gives at best the sum of \$6.00 a week for a family to live on, an impossible arrangement which is certain to ruin the health and morale of any human being, and especially the babies.

The exposure of conditions all over the United States by various investigating commissions which showed that little children of the ages of 6 to 12 were slaving away for 10 to 12 hours a day in the beet fields of Michigan, the cotton fields of the South, the silk mills and glass factories of the eastern section of the country and in various other parts of the nation was shown by the Young Workers League to be the result of the capitalists' insatiable greed for greater profits. But with the horrifying information discovered by the New York Welfare Commission, the argument of the young Communists receives its finishing touches. If it ever needed any. The employment of 2-year-old babies to help make profits for a bloated rat who owns the machinery of production is the degrading of the human being to the lowest imaginable depths.

American capitalism is fast coming to a point where the most superficial appearance of decency are being swept aside in the mad, inhuman rush for profits. The investigations of the New York commission should be enough to convince even the most hesitant of the fundamental injustice, brutality and cruelty of the capitalist system which sacrifices babies who have hardly had time to spring from the womb of their mothers before they are dragged into work in order to coin an extra dollar or two for the luxuries and extravagances of the bosses of this country.

## Koo Koo Kanit Kamp on Koolidge Kampus

PALO ALTO, Cal.—Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, president of Stanford University here, has issued an announcement that the Ku Klux Klan will not be tolerated on the campus. A student from Texas has been active in an attempt to start a "klu" but the use of the assembly hall has been denied and any mention of the university and the Klan in favorable connection is prohibited.

## Greetings from Detroit!

"Branch three, Detroit, greets The Young Worker in its newspaper form. Many readers here were gratified with The Young Worker in its present form in general. Let us hope now for weekly and then for a daily!" (Amen. Ed.)

The six branches of Detroit hold socials every month under the direction of the city central committee. Branch three will hold its affair on January 28th at the Danish Brotherhood's Hall, Forest and Twelfth Sts. All Detroit reds are urged to attend and have a darn good time.



Future Soldiers of Capitalism—Boy Scouts—Marching to the Dance of Death!

## Workers Party Convenes

(Continued from Page 1)  
paper, and further, The Young Worker is now being issued twice a month, and a children's paper, The Young Comrade, is being issued monthly.

Many sections of the Party are now cooperating closely with the Young Workers League. Especially is this true of the Finnish Federation, which is extending material aid to the Young Workers League organizers in the Minnesota and Massachusetts territory. It was shown through this aid had not only the Young Workers League been strengthened, but also that the Party units had been revitalized by the energy and enthusiasm of the younger comrades. The Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Chicago Party units, have also been at the forefront in extending organizational and educational support to the Young Workers League.

Comrade Merrick, district organizer of Pittsburgh district, stated that in his opinion 1,000 Young workers would be organized in another six months in his district and he would add to his utmost in that direction. Party comrades pointed out that in a number of instances the Party had done very little to help the Young Workers League organize, but that they now recognized that this was an error and that it was essential to build up the young workers movement. If the young people were not to become a reactionary element.

In the field of anti-militarism, the League had not been able to carry on anything except a general activity. The League had participated in two anti-war conferences, at Waukegan, Illinois and Baltimore, Maryland, with some slight gains having been made there in the way of connections for the League. However, with the citizens training camps, state constabularies, and similar White Guard organizations in existence, on a large scale, it will be necessary for the League to extend its anti-militarist work.

The League was recognized as having been the initiator of the shop nucleus or shop unit organization in America and was commended thereon. The party at this conference also went on record enthusiastically for the reorganization and organization of the party on the basis of shop nucleus, or shop units. The announcement that the party would publish the Daily Worker on January 13th was hailed with joy and the convention pledged itself to carry on the work to make a success of the Daily Worker, the first English communist daily in the world. As a further incentive to subscribers, the subscription rate of the Daily Worker was decreased to \$6.00 a year out of town, and \$8.00 a year to Chicago subscribers.

The campaign of the party for the formation of a mass farmer labor party came in for lengthy discussion, and the convention went on record for the continued carrying on of the campaign to organize such a labor party, on the broadest possible scale, embracing all elements who subscribe to independent political action of a working class character. The party will carry on a vigorous campaign to aid in making a success of the May 30th conference in St. Paul, called by the Farmer Labor Federation of Minnesota to organize the farmer labor party movement on a larger scale. The Young Workers League will also conduct work to get the young workers and students of America strongly in support of the labor party.

## Cannon to Lecture to Chicago

By special arrangement with the Workers Party, the Young Workers League of Chicago has obtained comrade James P. Cannon to give a series of lectures on subjects covering the theory and practice of the communist and young communist movement. The lectures, of which there will be at least three, will cover every phase of the subject in a manner well known to be possessed by Comrade Cannon. The second lecture will be given on Sunday, January 20th, and every young worker, especially members of the League in Chicago, should not miss this rare opportunity.

For further information write or see Valerie Melts, secretary, 104 W. Washington St., Room 307.

movement and will send delegates to the May 30th conference.

The work of the Industrial department, functioning through the Trade Union Educational League, was highly commended and the party went on record that the party units shall organize branches of the Trade Union Educational League wherever they do not already exist, and to push the sale of the Labor Herald, the official organ of the Trade Union Educational League.

One of the major campaigns of the Workers Party in the coming months will be that for the protection of the foreign born workers. With the reactionary Congress calling for the registration and finger prints of all aliens and the setting up of a tremendous spy system in America, the danger to the labor movement becomes plain. The convention, therefore, instructed the central executive committee and the district executive committees to organize committees to carry on agitation against the passage of such an invidious law. All workers and workers organizations and other organizations, will come together in a united front against such reactionary legislation, as proposed by the strike-breaker, President Coolidge, and will be asked to form councils for the protection of the foreign born workers. The Young Workers League, too, will of course, enter wholeheartedly into such a campaign and will send delegates to such council wherever they are formed.

The convention lasted for three days, during which time the delegates met day and night, hardly 10 hours during the three days were taken off for adjournment. The enthusiasm was high and the achievements of the convention likewise were very good. The Workers Party will issue the proceedings of this most excellent convention in pamphlet form and every member of the League is urged to purchase that pamphlet and get more thoroughly acquainted with the work of the Workers Party, to whose principles the Young Workers League wholeheartedly subscribes, and which it carries out.

The national convention elected a C. E. C. of 12, with one representative to be selected by the N. E. C. of the Young Workers League. The comrades elected to the C. E. C. of the Party are as follows: Alexander Buchanan, Earl R. Browder, Fabian Berman, James P. Cannon, William F. Dunne, J. Louis English, William F. Foster, Benjamin Gitlow, Ludwig Lore, Jay Lovestone, John Pepper and C. E. Ruthenberg. Comrade Martin Abern represents the Young Workers League on the central executive committee of the party, and Comrade Engdahl represents the party on the national executive committee of the Young Workers League.

Everyone can be highly satisfied with the outcome of the Party convention and we can expect a great increase in organizational and political activities.

The Young Workers League now, more than ever, sees in the Workers Party the only real leader of the existing masses in America. The cooperation between the two bodies is ever getting better. The Young Workers League even as the party, can be expected to show a continued swift growth. The party recognizing the future role of the Young Workers League in gathering the virile young workers of America, stands ready to lend every support to the Young Workers League.

## WORK OF FARM BRANCHES

The members of the Young Workers League, particularly those in the farm branches and those who live in small towns near farming settlements, must devote special attention to the education of the youth, on the farms. We must show them that the reason they are being forced to work on the farms is but a result of the development of capitalism. We must show them that the conditions of the youth on the farms will never be bettered until the workers and working farmers unite to rid themselves of their oppressors and establish a workers' and farmers government!

This copy should be read by ten young workers.

## And Still It Grows!

The Young Workers League is now definitely out for a membership of 10,000 by the next annual convention of the League if possible. The young workers all over the country are beginning to realize that their fundamental interests lie with a movement such as the League represents, a working class, Communist movement.

The tour of the national organizer of the League, Max Salsman, visited the League hundreds of members in a territory never touched before, the agricultural district of this country, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. As can be seen from another report in this issue of The Young Worker, the district organizer of the Workers Party in Pittsburgh, Fred Merrick, has assured the League that a few months will see an addition of 1,000 members to the League in that section of the country. From all parts of the country enquiries are coming into the national office concerning the formation of local units. Our propaganda is even going into the "solid South," Oklahoma, where interest in the radical movement is reviving.

New branches of the Young Workers League have just been formed in Youngstown, Ohio, which expects to double its membership in a short time; at Fairfield and South Norwalk, both in Connecticut. There are prospects for a branch in New Brunswick, N. J.

Get into the Young Workers League now! Join with the fighting youth of this country against the vicious conditions of slavery and poverty and war! JOIN NOW!

## Young Communist Commits Suicide; Couldn't Get Job

NEW YORK CITY.—Another victim of the brutality of capitalist society was marked here today by the suicide of Comrade Aaron Kempler, member of the Young Workers League of America, who threw himself under a swiftly moving subway near his home in the Bronx. The 21-year-old comrade had been out of work for some time and his situation was aggravated by the fact that he was the sole support of an old widowed mother. For a long time he had been unable to get a job. His mother was beginning to suffer the pangs of hunger and this condition forced Comrade Kempler to commit this extreme step.

In the few days before the tragedy, Kempler was known to be very melancholy, and yesterday he hung himself under the wheels of the subway. The motorman saw him but it was too late to stop the train in time. An ambulance was called from Lincoln Hospital, but when it arrived the doctors found a dead and mangled body.

The suicide was well known to the members of the Young Workers League of New York, and especially the Bronx, he having been a quiet but very active and true comrade of the English Branch No. 1 of the Bronx.

His tragic death caused much sorrow among all the comrades who knew him, and knew the financial situation in which he had been before his death. He never sought any help from any one of his comrades, but continued his daily search for a job in vain.

We mourn the loss of a good comrade in the struggle against the vile system of society to which he had to succumb. Honor to the memory of Comrade Aaron Kempler.

## Fascist Talks to Children in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Fascist Benito Mussolini, ambassador to the United States of the Majesty, Mussolini of Italy, stopped off in Pittsburgh to address the children of St. Peter's school here on the benefits that Fascism has bestowed on the Italian people. The children, previously released, greeted him with shouts of "Benito" and the Fascist salute for himself and the degenerate whose government he represents.

Certainly told the children that the fascists are using education as a heaven for national content, of how the schools had been improved and concluded by saying, "As ambassador of Italy, I tell you to remember Italy, to love America and to serve Italy."

He completely forgot to tell the children that he was the leader in Rome of the labor hating gang of brutal black shirts who had carried on for the last seven months an unparalleled campaign of terrorism, rape, incineration, murder and robbery against the brave Italian working class. He said not a word of the hundreds of workers killed and jailed, of the workers' movement being driven underground, of their homes and labor temples wrecked and burned, of their unions being broken up and of the imperialist tactics used by Mussolini in the occupation of Corfu. He even managed to omit, in telling of the improvements in education, to say that Mussolini is even breaking the strikes of the very students who had formerly supported him and his program.

Certainly pretends to be a staunch follower of the principles and ideas of Benito Mussolini, the latest in educational fronts, whose false philosophy and accordingly learned "experts" of the theories of Karl Marx are known to the Italian working class as standard works in stupidity.

## The Youth of the Mine Regions and Their Environment

By THOM MYERSBOUGH, Secretary, "Progressive Miners' Committee."

Really to know what life is for the young folks in the mining regions of the United States, it would be necessary for one to spend considerable time among them. A casual visit or a haphazard guess is far from being sufficient, for the chances are that you would either choose a day when some occasional function is being held, which of course prompts a happy countenance, or you would arrive when all are actually engaged with the daily tasks that are so necessary, and so essential to their very existence.

While it is not so common now as it was in the past, one is still able to see tottering boys dragging their tired and weary bodies homeward from the mine. Some of these boys are unfortunate members of large families, and long before they are really old enough to work, the parents are obliged, thru economic pressure, to hush them before a Justice of Peace and swear that a twelve or fourteen year old boy is sixteen.

These Justices are often the coal company's political link in the town, and an affidavit sworn to before one of them is all the company cares about, or with such a document for their own protection they can enjoy the profits from his labor as well as from the labor of his parent. When care they if the boy is stunted? What care they if he is crippled or perhaps killed? Aren't there lots of other boys who can take his place?

A miserable existence at best is it that is afforded the boy whose misfortune it is to live in a mining camp, as such places are named by those who must of necessity live in them.

Who knows when an explosion is going to snuff out the lives of all that are in the mine? Of course I don't mind telling you that such thoughts are the last thing to enter the mind of a miner, for one of the chief requirements of one who mines is that he be a fatalist; to be otherwise one can not be a good miner. By this I mean that he would not be able, on account of his fear, to earn enough to exist on, and it would be far better for those who are afraid, to confine their digging activities to the outside of a mine.

The lot of the girl in such camps is still worse. Of course, she can't go to work in the mine, and most mining towns provide no means of employment for them, so domestic

slavery generally is hers for a career. This means that she must leave home to get a slavery job at perhaps \$25.00 a month; with one evening a week and one Sunday a month off. Yes, she is then allowed to go home to see her parents, perhaps go to a dance and call it a good time; but she is expected back on the job again Monday morning, ready for another month of drudgery.

One of the reasons, and probably the chief one, for the fact that miners' children have no other legacy, is the mining-camp school. There in the little isolated towns one can find the butt-end of all the jokes that are spread about "the old village school-house." Quaint little buildings and city girls just out of high-school for teachers, are the general rule in most of the camps, apparently enough to meet the legal requirement, so there is little to wonder, except it be such things are tolerated.

There is no doubt that the geographical location of many of these towns has to do with making it hard to secure competent teachers, because in many instances there is no suitable means of transportation. This means that only those who are seeking "experience" will suffer the inconveniences that go with rural school teaching, and they practice on the miners' children with the story of Betty Ross making the first stars and stripes, and telling them that George Washington is the father of our country, with the result that when they are big enough to have their parents say they are sixteen years old, they begin to realize that the father of "our" country was not a very brilliant person, at least to those of his kids who were unfortunate enough to have a "shack" in a mining town for a home. After the work-day is done, the pool-room is the only place that holds any attraction for the average boy, while the girls in order to pass away their time, the few who have not taken up domestic service, work on their "shape chest" and look forward to that eventful day when they are taken "for better or worse" (emphasis on the worse) and start on their life's journey of misery. Through a blissful ignorance over which they have no control, they reproduce their kind, raise them, or drag them up, as they themselves were, and the coal operators are assured of another crop of slaves with which to run their mines.

This condition of things can only run on as long as the workers of this country allow it, and as we cannot expect our employer class to make the change for us, we will have to get busy ourselves.



## Parents and Offsprings

The real beginning of a better understanding between the adults and children is initiated in the Communist Children's Groups. It is there that the leader is considered only as a more experienced elder who wins the confidence of his younger comrades and is, therefore, in a position to lead them in both the internal and external work of the group.

When we started our work among children the national junior section, formulated the policy that no permanent parents' organization should be formed for the time being. This policy was in harmony with the fact that the League members were best fitted to lead the children. Furthermore, we wanted to prevent a repetition in the Junior Groups of the "parental dictatorship" which prevails in the various Sunday schools throughout the country. From this viewpoint the policy was correct. It should, however, not be interpreted to mean that we are dogmatically opposed to the creation of parents' conferences. Rather the reverse is true. In the coordination of the home life of the child to the life of the child in the group and the endeavor to establish a better relationship between the two it becomes necessary that parents conferences be called from time to time.

The ruling class for the benefit of its "class educational system," has recognized the necessity of consolidating the home life of the child to the life of the child in the school. For this purpose they have built up an institution which deserves our consideration.

**Parent-Teacher Associations.** The name speaks for itself. It is an organization of parents and teachers. The purpose of the organization can be summed up in one phrase: of the movement can be summed up as follows:

About 1855 various mothers' meetings were inaugurated to propagate the idea of kindergartens for the public schools. These seem to have been the forerunners of the present teacher-parents' associations. About 1897 a national congress of mothers was called in Washington, D. C., at which a permanent mothers' organization was formed.

The mothers soon discovered that in order to realize the purposes of the organization they would have to ally themselves with the teachers. In response to this need parent-teacher associations came into existence. Other organizations with various names but similar purposes merged themselves into this movement. Among them

were the parents' league, home and school associations, mother's leagues, preschool circles, reading circles, etc. In 1908 the National Congress of Mothers changed its name to include parent-teacher associations. Since that time units have been organized in every state of the union and in Alaska and Hawaii. State organizations have been established in 40 states. The National Organization is departmentalized as follows:

- (1) Organization and Efficiency—Child Welfare or Founders' Day; child welfare magazine, extension, finance, membership, press and publicity, program services and literature.
- (2) Public Welfare—Better films, country life, immigration and American citizenship, juvenile protection, legislation.
- (3) Education—Humane education, kindergarten extension, scholarship, school education, visual education.
- (4) Home Service—Children's reading, home economics, home education, Mother's Study, circles, preschool age, recreation and social standards, thrift.
- (5) Health—Child Hygiene, monogamous marriage, physical education, racial health.

The social composition of the organization can be estimated to be predominately petty bourgeois. The membership consists of active, associative, sustaining, life members and benefactors. Its numerical strength is reported at half a million.

Here we have an effective organization serving a decided reactionary purpose, namely, that of making more efficient, of coordinating with, the tool of capitalists and religious propaganda—the public schools. There is one lesson which we can derive from this organization and that is: The necessity of soliciting the support of the parents in our own children's movement—the Junior Section.

## On the Job

**Exploit Many Girls.**  
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Comrade:

I work in a place here that makes stamped novelties. Most of the people working here, outside of the specialists, the tool and die makers and a few mechanics who fix the machines, are young—girls doing soldering, stamping and other little jobs connected with the work. There are a lot of young girls employed in the plant now. The wages are very low. Some get as little as \$12.00 a week; the highest wage paid any of the girls here is \$15.00 on a weekly basis; but there are some girls who work piece work and hurt their eyes until they get red and sore, and they make about \$20.00, which you know is not a living wage for a girl. If a girl wants to live decently,

there are about 200 people working in this shop. I would give you the name, but you know what that means if they find out.

I am going to try to get some of the others to write to your paper. Most young people are afraid to write. They think you have to be a writer. Possibly if I knew more about writing and how to collect the right kind of material I could send you some more interesting matter. But I am doing the best I can. May be because we work here all the time we don't see the things just like others would like to. We get kind of used to the slavery and are only too glad to get away from it. That doesn't cure it.

Yours for shop organization,  
M. SANTILA.

**Members Don't Push Paper in Shop.**  
Gary, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

I got a copy of your paper, "The Young Workers," from a fellow in the mills here. He was kind of afraid to let me have it. I think your members don't push paper enough in the work place. If they did I know

more of the boys would buy it. Well, maybe they are afraid to lost their job.

You get the right dope on conditions. I get 40 cents an hour. I haven't got any regular job; just a helper. Most of the young fellows here would quit right off the reel, but they ain't sure where their next job is coming from, so they slave on from day to day. Your idea or organizing on the job is good. Let's see more of it.

J. E.

**Young Wobblies Interested in Y. W. L.**  
Omaha, Nebraska.

Last week I was in Chicago, I attended a meeting at which Comrade Ruthenberg spoke, and I met a lot of the members of the Young Workers League of America. I liked their spirit. I am a member of the Y. W. L. but am only 17 years of age. Originally I came from Rochester, N. Y., but have been on the "bum" for the past two years, and have come up against the miserable conditions of the young farmers. Talk about your factory exploitation! These young farm folks don't know anything but work—12, 14 hours a day; sometimes they are worked by their own parents, and at the dirtiest and hardest kind of work, too.

I am in favor of the idea of organizing the youth in a revolutionary movement, and am glad to see that there is at least one organization doing this work, the Y. W. L. I may not agree with the ideas of your parent organization, the Workers Party.

I am willing to follow on the job and help any of you fellows wherever I meet them. But this may threaten much of any kind of organization. I leave for Seattle soon, and will let you hear from me if I get any youth news.

Yours for a Young Workers' organization,  
YOUNG WOBBLY.

## To the Worker

Arise! from the mire,  
Be boast no longer;  
Climb from the sloughs  
To freedom's splendour

Earth triumphant!  
Man free,  
All things waver—  
In expectancy.

Make the burst!  
Un-loose the shroud;  
Proclaim your right,  
With your might  
Turn on the Light—  
Of Liberty.

Masters of the sea!  
Comrades of the soil  
Slayers of steel!  
Slings of ink!  
Slaves of all lands!

The whole world's awaiting  
For your taking,  
Why linger in slavery's mire,  
Freedom beckons with strong hands  
To come and be her lover.

—Alan Murtagh.

## Chicago Y. W. L. Holds City Convention

The first 1924 semi-annual convention of the Young Workers League of Chicago has just been concluded. The convention started to business right from the start.

Peter Herl, organizer, presented a comprehensive organization report covering every phase of the work that served as a basis for the discussion throughout the convention.

The national organization was reported on by Martin Aborn. As a result of the organization report the delegates were unanimously of the opinion that our organization must begin to reap the profits of the numerous sloughs which both the League and the party have been successful in spreading. The suggestion that the Young Workers League endeavor to put before the trades unions and central labor bodies resolutions calling for the organization of the young workers without barriers into these unions was accepted.

The convention then turned its attention to the report of the industrial organizer. The League in Chicago has been quite successful in this task. Already two shop nuclei and one school nucleus had been firmly established. These nuclei or units have shown conclusively to the League, the vast amount of value they are. One of the shop nuclei are fighting against their employer, who serves scab bread to his factory workers. The school nucleus have put before the students of the Medill High School a program of immediate aims which they feel will win the support of the high school students. The program calls for a student governing body.

The educational director called the attention of the delegates to the success of the plan of education which would build our League on a firm foundation. In his outline of the work he encouraged members to speak before branches on subjects which effect the young workers.

Resolutions dealing with the following matter were passed by the convention: Calling upon local propaganda committees to be located in the same city of the National Executive Committee; urging the National Executive Committee and Central Executive Committee of the Young Workers League to issue leaflets regularly dealing with the problems of the working youth; that monthly meetings of the educational directors of the branches be held in order to promote the educational work of the League as well as on other things.

which, having been sold, no longer belonged to him; should consider himself in the position of a farm hand, hired by the year, not allowed to dispose of either his time or his strength at his own fancy, but compelled to regulate them according to the needs of the one who hired him. Emile then thought of marriage and of country life.

"I will hunt, ride horseback, plow my fields; my stomach will regain its former vigor and will endure without weariness the loads imposed upon it by my employer."

He reduced his love passages and resubmitted his proposition at the gymnasium; but in proportion as he fortified his stomach and increased its digestive capacity, his employer increased the quantity of victuals which he engulfed.

The notary found a young lady to marry, agreeable in appearance, of a respectable family and with a round dowry. The conditions of the marriage contract having been discussed and fixed, the time came for the official introduction of the betrothed pair to each other. Emile, barbaric, brushed and burnished, arrived, radiant with hope; he saw himself a landed proprietor, supervising the cultivation of his fields and the care of his live stock. It was three o'clock when his employer had put into his stomach the last mouthful of his greasy breakfast, and according to his custom he should have left his wage-worker time to digest it. But scarcely had Destouches entered the parlor of his future mother-in-law, when he felt his stomach, still overloaded, filling itself anew. His employer had just experienced certain annoyances

## What Are We Aiming At?

By HARRY GANNES.

Two things bring into prominence the ultimate aim in our program. They are, (1) the impending worker's revolution in Germany, and (2) the approaching Fourth Congress of the Young Communist International.

Have our members given enough thought to the list and center of the program of the young communists? When our two delegates returned from the Third Congress of the Young Communist International, there was a little discussion of the meaning of the central theme, the heart, I might say, of the young communist program: The socialist reorganization of youth labor. Our program, as well as the provisional program of the Y. C. I., goes on to mean that youth should be considered by the state (the workers organized as the ruling power) as objects of education up to the age of 18 years; and that, of course, the entire educational point-of-view regarding the youth should be changed so as to build up a new generation of workers.

The Y. C. I. drew up a program which was discussed at the Fourth Bureau session, and which has been sent out to the leagues all over the world, including the Young Workers League of America. The program as outlined is not the final word, but it contains vast material for discussion and study; and it may be, on the basis of conditions in the United States that our comrades might think changes advisable. That can be determined only by a study of the Y. C. I. program, a reading of conditions of youth labor in this country, and a discussion by the branches.

In Germany we find the Young Communist League putting forth what we might call the most petty economic demands, and yet at the same time it is on the threshold of socialist reorganization of youth labor. To win the masses of young workers and to show them that we do not live in the clouds, it is necessary to take part in their daily struggles, but our participation in the daily struggles, which at all times must be intense and all-absorbing, should not lead us to forget our ultimate program.

We must not only have a negative point of view, for instance, the abolition of child labor, the destruction of the capitalist state, the abolition of long hours, etc., but we must have a positive plan of action; we must view the capitalist system in its entirety, recognize that our campaign aims to break it down, but we

must not leave the working youth ignorant as to our ultimate aims.

Of course, I know we have a hard enough job now even to enlist the American youth for the most petty and elementary contests, yet even our old program stated that the struggle of the working class against the capitalist class proceeds from the basis of the concrete, daily struggle to a struggle for ideas, to a fight for the Communist ideal; and so the struggle of the young Communist, of the working class youth must take the form, not only of the important fight against the abolition of child labor but as well the institution of the Communist reorganization of youth labor.

To bring the discussion down to a realistic basis: We find that in the United States, all the organizations urging the abolition of child labor, besides their negative demands, have their positive, constructive demands—in the interest of the capitalist system.

Let us examine these briefly. The National Child Labor Committee is for the abolition of child labor up to the age of 16, but it states it is not against child work, and points out how necessary some sort of intelligently directed work, connected with education is, for the building up of good and staunch American citizens, which means, in other words, capable workers for exploitation by the owners of this country, the capitalists.

The Children's Bureau of the U. S. government is of the same view, and the majority of other humanitarian and philanthropic organizations and publications follow in the same line. The American Federation of Labor, expressing itself thru the ancient Congress, shows itself in this struggle to be void of even the most elementary understanding of the true basis and cause for child labor. It vaguely asks for the abolition of child labor, and leaves the matter hanging in the air. It does not consider the organization of the youth already working and it does not take into account the treatment of the youth whose labor is to be abolished.

An understanding by our members of our ultimate aim means a better understanding of our every day struggle, of the campaigns which we advance.

Our members must be infused with a broader vision than that offered by the abolition of child labor, the organization of the youth into the trade unions, and the various immediate departments contained in our economic program.

A powerful master secured his revenge. The gastly labor of Destouches became every day more difficult and more painful; the more repeated his repeats four and five times in the twenty-four hours, and many times a day drank to the point of intoxication. Emile resorted for consolation to the practice of the Romans, he took an emetic, but every time he emptied his stomach, his torturer filled it up again. His life was intolerable. The sight of any food, even bread, gave him nausea. The disgust which the satiated and impatient feel for the multitude and for everything that lives, cries and moves, entered into his soul; he fled from the society of men and the sight of their halldations; he lived alone, in the midst of the fields, going out only at night so as not to meet any living being, man or beast; and night and day he labored to digest the heroic banquet of his employer. The fear of poverty, that faithful companion of his youth, had prevented him from breaking his contract, but he owned himself vanquished, and would gladly have chosen days without bread, rather than this terrible labor, his stomach always directing. He betook himself to M. Gabarit, determined to break the contract; the notary declared up and down that it was impossible; he was bound for three years more, and even if it killed him, he must go on to the end. By way of consolation he added:

"You complain because you have been reduced to becoming nothing but a digestive apparatus; but all who earn their living by working are lodged at the same sign. They obtain

## Industrial Notes

By JOHN WILLIAMSON.

From a letter received from England, much interesting material on the growth and experience of shop nuclei there can be read. We quote numerous extracts from the letter which we are sure will prove of value to our comrades here for their work in the establishment of shop nuclei.

"Tomorrow an apprentice strike takes place in Leith under our leadership, against a penny wage cut. We now have five nuclei in the five shipyards here. That is one per yard, so you see we have the whole district covered here. We started the first one with two members.

"R—'s report to the conference was great. He gave a picture of the old branch and the new, and the realism of it was absolutely amazing. His words sent home so much better when he recounted actual experiences. He told how he started work in a yard where we have a nucleus and they were making a penny out on the apprentices. The nucleus immediately met, called the apprentices together and elected two young Communists to interview the boss, one of whom was R—. The manager said, 'What the hell do you know about the wages? You haven't been on the job five minutes!' He gave this to illustrate how quickly the League can act for the young workers by this form of organization.

"As I say, we have excellent chances elsewhere, for instance, in Barrow. I suppose you know that while I was there we succeeded in getting an apprentices' meeting of about 30 strong, and got them to elect an apprentices' vigilance committee.

"When we do get our nucleus in there, I'll put all the others in the shade. I'm pretty sure of that. We have also discussed other places, Yorks, the woollen mills, we have good chances; also the cotton district,

Lancs; and then the mines, which we haven't touched yet. I go to South Wales in a month and I hope we shall make good there, too. We can't expect to do great things immediately, but they report good chances. One result of our nucleus work has been to immediately stimulate union activity."

Not such a bad report, when we consider that the Young Communist League in England is much smaller than our own Young Workers League. We should have at least 10 times as many nuclei as they have, if we will only go about it in the serious, organized and systematic manner that the English comrades follow.

The Industrial Department of the League is now beginning work on the industrial registration blanks which are copying in swiftly. This shows an increased in the shop nucleus organization which promises good for the future of the League.

Get busy now! Spread a net of nuclei wherever we have members of the League working in a shop, mine, field or factory. Let us not allow the English League to beat us in the establishment of nuclei. The American League to the forefront!

What are we fighting for? Is a logical question to be asked by our members. To answer with the ultimate aim of the party, the conquest of power and the institution of a classless society, is all very good but not enough for a youth organization which is formed for a special purpose.

In America the capitalist class is fortifying itself by recognizing the importance of especially treating the youth as objects of exploitation, not in the old haphazard way, but in a scientific manner. Schools are purposefully being organized to train the youth to become better workers. To fight against these schools merely on the basis that they are no good is to make ourselves ridiculous in the eyes of the youth who receive the benefits of these schools. It is in places like these that our ultimate program comes into good stead.

Let us not lose sight of the fact that we are aiming at the abolition of all wage slavery for all young workers up to 18 years of age. The young workers are to be cared for by the state and treated from an educational point of view until they have attained this age. This is what is meant by the socialist reorganization of youth labor.

**Boomer Take Further Step in Control of Goose Mep.**

(Special to "The Young Worker"). SAN FRANCISCO Paul Shoup, vice president of the notoriously non-violent Southern Pacific Railroad, has been appointed a member of the board of trustees of the Leland University. He was named to the position because of his work in conducting the "million million" campaign for the university.

The goose step in this University is marching on with swifter pace. Stanford is known as one of the corporation controlled universities of this country and the impartial and broad education it is alleged to give the students may be understood by the election of Shoup to the board of trustees.

The board is now in the hands of such impartial persons as Timothy Hopkins, interested in milling companies, trust companies and telegraph and telephone companies; Frank D. Anderson, president of the Bank of California, a Standard Oil concern; Bourn, president of the Spring Valley Water Company, which features in the San Francisco graft prosecutions; numerous reactionary lawyers and millionaires and their like.

This is another sample of the education given to the youth of this country in the schools which are directly owned, controlled and run by capitalists in their own interests and in direct opposition to any principle or idea held by the labor movement.

their means of existence, only by confining themselves to being nothing but an organ functioning to the profit of another; the mechanic is the arm which forges, taps, hammers, planes, dig, weaves; the singer is the larynx which vocalizes, warbles, spins out notes; the engineer is the brain which calculated, which arranges plans; the prostitute is the sexual organ which provides uterine pleasure. Do you imagine that the clerks in my office use their intelligence, or that they reflect when they are copying papers? Oh, but they don't; thinking is not their business; they are nothing but fingers which scribble. They perform in my office for ten or twelve hours this work which is far from exalting, which gives them headaches, stomach disorders and hemorrhoids; and at evening they carry home writing to finish, that they may earn a few cents to pay their landlord. Console yourself, my dear sir, these young people suffer as well as you, and not one of them has the satisfaction of saying that he receives per year the sum that he draws for a single month of digestive labor."

"It is sad, terribly sad and I have not even the consolation of believing myself the most unhappy of mortals."

"Imprint this truth on your memory: the poor man no longer exists for himself in our civilized societies, but for the capitalist, who sets him to work at his fancy or according to his needs with such or such of his organs." (To be continued.)

## The Sale of An Appetite

(Continued from last issue.)

PART II.

All that is new is beautiful, says the wisdom of the nations. The beginnings of his new existence delighted Emile Destouches; at ten each morning, like a beloved visitor by the supernatural, he felt descend into his stomach meats and drinks which he neither ate nor drank; he did not perceive their odor nor their flavor, but he was obliged to digest them; his stomach was filled by an operation as mystical as that which fertilized the virgin Mary and gave Joseph a little Jesus.

The requests, which he took through the mouth and gullet of his master, who had leased him, lasted two hours; with his head heavy and his limbs languid, he slept a part of the day, digesting slowly and painfully the meats and the wines which the other had greedily swallowed. Toward three o'clock he went out for a long walk to revive his gorged belly; this was required of him by one of the clauses of the contract. In the evening his stomach was again filled, and he sank into an opiod sleep. These heroic repeats were not repugnant to his voracious peasant's constitution, and between times he caught on the wing the pleasures of cheap poverty had deprived him; he dressed elegantly and ran around with the girls.

"I am nothing any more but a grub-sack," he said to himself, "my life

is the life of the goose that are crammed for their fat livers; I do not taste the wines nor the meats which I am compelled to digest for my employer. Bah! the people who have lost their sense of smell are in the same case with me; and then, it will last only five years; during that time of forced labor of the stomach, not only shall I be relieved from the labor of mastication and the degrading concern for bread to be found day by day, but I shall save ten or even twenty thousand francs a year. The laborers who are condemned all their lives to the forced labors of the mine and the work-shop would envy my lot."

Thus he tried to console himself by comparing his labor to that of other wage workers; he said to himself that his servitude was temporary and that when it should be ended, he would have amassed a pretty sum which would enable him to live like a bourgeois, doing nothing.

The open air exercise and the labors of Venus to which he devoted himself did not prevent this systematic stuffing; he grew dyspeptic; his stomach became sluggish; his disposition melancholy. M. Gabarit, at whose office he drew his monthly salary, reproved him sharply, reproaching him for his festive nights in the company of gay girls; venereal excesses, the notary insisted, blunted his appetite and weakened his digestive power,



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## A Fairy Tale of Wood and Oil

Do you believe in fairy tales? No? Anyway, here's a gem. Once upon a time there was a United States General, Leonard Wood, who was sent by the good government to rule over the ignorant natives in the Philippine Islands. He was a good fellow, but somehow the natives did not appreciate him. Can you imagine? They actually wanted independence! They wanted to rule themselves instead of being exploited by the sugar and oil barons of the good country across the Pacific. You can see that the natives were awful fellows; they were pretty near as bad as the terrible red bolsheviks.

Now this general had a son, Osborne Cutler Wood, who was a lieutenant in the army of the good government which was so interested in the capitalists. Osborne was also a nice fellow and he had brains with a capital B. Having been born in the United States and taught in our schools, he knew that if he worked hard enough and was honest with people, he would become a rich man—maybe president of the country even if his old man failed.

One day Osborne became interested in stocks. As the days went by he became more interested. To make a long story short, in one year's time he had made anywhere between \$800,000 to \$3,000,000 by speculating in Wall Street by cablegrams. He hit it off by making a killing in Standard Oil securities.

Of course, it happens that the Standard Oil Company is very, very much interested in oil lands of the Philippine Islands. And you may be sure that the wicked reds will tell you that Osborne was undoubtedly tipped off on the stock affair by the Standard Oil Company in return for favors on the oil lands of the island. But you know how these reds are!

And the young workers who went to war in 1917 and came home without a job or a leg or an arm or any other such little thing, should take a lesson from the clever son of Leonard.

Do you want a bonus? Are you angry because you didn't get the democracy you were sent to fight for? Do you think that this is one hell of a country—the rulers of it, that is—where the workers are practically born into the factory and die in it, without any chance to get out of the rut of slavery?

Don't entertain such evil and unpatriotic thoughts. Listen to what one of our leading citizens said about the story of Wood and Oil:

"Well, we couldn't make a cent with the tape running right thru our fingers during the same period. Maybe the way to speculate in Wall Street is to go 10,000 miles away and trust to luck at the far end of a telegraph wire."  
And we said, "Don't forget to be born the son of a governor-general of the Philippine Islands."

## Catching 'em Young

Unlike Sammie Gompers, the Salvation Army does not overlook the necessity of reaching the youth in order to disseminate their religious poison where it can do the most damage. So far do these sky-pilots go in their endeavor to reach the youth as well as children that a weekly paper, "The Young Soldier," is issued by authority of the Salvation Army headquarters.

"The Young Soldier" carries the usual religious bunk, seeking to make the young better wage slaves and implanting very early in the minds of the children a destructive and paralyzing superstition. The Jan. 12 issue is amusing in that, in its children's page, it informs the kiddies what an excellent boot-legger Jesus was when he produced plenty of booze at a wedding when all indications were that the occasion was to be as dry as this country is supposed to be.

To issue a paper like "The Young Soldier" in Soviet Russia would be a crime, because it is against the interests and well-being of the working class; in this country it is a boon to the master class.

## Look at America!

Dr. Andrew Chernus' recent report to the American Red Cross brings vividly to mind the condition of the children of Central Europe. Dr. Chernus' report deals mainly with Austria and Hungary.

Conditions in Germany today are even worse than the awful state of affairs pictured in Dr. Chernus' report. It is to do away with just such conditions, brought about by the capitalist class that the Young Communist Leagues of Germany, Austria and Hungary are fighting the armed forces of the bourgeoisie of those countries.

Dr. Chernus reports that:

"Children! The real victims of the Central European chaos! . . . In Hungary, because of lack of food and lack of sanitary equipment, more than 20 per cent of new-born babies died within the year. . . .

" . . . In Budapest 53 per cent of homes possess only one room, 27 per cent, two rooms, and 11 per cent of homes have three rooms. Many of these rooms lack even a window. . . . A lonely candle reminds the lodgers that somewhere there may be sunlight. The fact that 91 per cent of the inhabitants of Budapest live in these homes of one, two or three rooms explains the high death rate among children. . . . The father of a family of several children, working all day, does not earn enough to cover bare necessities of his family. . . .

"Thousands of innocent babies live in dark and filthy holes, ill and without clothing. A child burning with fever lies among his seemingly healthy brothers and sisters. As high as six members of one family died within a year of tuberculosis. In one room, twelve feet square, I found three different families lying about on the bare floor. . . .

And so on goes the report with harrowing details of the misery of the Central European youth.

Though Dr. Chernus might be familiar, thru investigation with the conditions in Austria and Hungary, he shows his total ignorance of conditions in this country when he says, "America is a country where the child enjoys more privileges than in any other country of the world." Yes, honorable doctor, the children of America enjoy the privilege of working more than in any other country in the world; there are something like 2,500,000 child laborers in the United States.

In the South and in the tenements of New York City housing conditions are precisely those described by the doctor as pertaining to Central Europe.

Here are excerpts from the reports of visits to homes in the country "where the child enjoys more privileges than in any other country in the world":

"Mrs. Donato led me thru a kitchen so dark that in spite of its being only a clock, a tiny flame of gas was all that prevented me from falling over the stove. Just then in came a little girl who walked over to the pile of stockings. Mrs. Donato said this was her daughter, Josephine, aged 11."

And Josephine spent all her spare time in this dark nole working to feed herself and help feed the family of ten. And another privileged dwelling place of the American children:

"Climbing up the narrow stairs, littered with paper and refuse in the corners of each step, I met Lucia. Her thin face and bright eyes, encircled with dark rings, are barely perceptible in the dim light led down from the skylight far above. . . . She goes on to tell me that she worked every day during vacation from early morning to supper time, crocheting tiny beads on to silks and satins. Of course they only gave me the cheapest work—and besides, brading pays so poor in the summer time. But I earned four dollars a week!"

This girl is thirteen years old. These are reports made by investigators for the National Child Labor Committee, a petty bourgeois organization, but they are but drops in the bucket.

It is true that on the whole conditions in the United States

are different from those now existing in Central Europe and especially in Germany; but there are things that bear a strong resemblance.

## The Koo Koo's Again

Edward Young Clarke, the imperial giant of the Ku Klux Klan, has now come forward as the savior of the noble aggregation of nightmarish slanders. Surrounded with documents which he says will condemn the present Klan before the public, he announced from his headquarters in Washington that the Klan was on the road of lawlessness and political dictatorship. He addressed a letter to President Coolidge, asking his cooperation in suppressing the lawless element in the Klan, and if this proved impossible, to stamp it out root and branch.

Clarke has developed a sudden love for lawfulness—very sudden, indeed. In fact, there are certain doubting Thomases who question his undoubtedly splendid motives. They point to the following record of Brother Clarke.

On February 9, 1910: He was expelled from his church after his pastor had formally charged him with lying, extortion, fraud, and unjust dealings, improper handling of funds, false and malicious slander, inordinate ambition, insubordination and "hypocrisy and treachery." From this action, our honest Mr. Clarke never even appealed.

On October 31, 1919: He was found guilty with his business partner, Mrs. Elizabeth Tyler, of disorderly conduct. The two had been picked up a few nights before in a notorious underworld joint in Atlanta, Ga., run by Mrs. Tyler. Both were in undergarments. Maybe they were preparing to don their Ku Klux Klan nightgowns? Who can tell the ways of klanism?

On February 28, 1923: He was indicted at Houston, Texas, on a charge of taking Louise Martin from Houston to New Orleans in violation of the Mann White Slave Law.

These incidents of Mr. Clarke's life are known. The facts that are yet unknown can easily be left to the imagination.

Why the sudden passion for law and order, Mr. Clarke? Are you aiming for the Imperial Koo-Kooship of the Klan?

## Have You a Copy?

Have you bought one or many yet? We mean, of the "Fundamental Problems of the Young Communist International." The Young Workers League has quite a number of them on hand, and they are sold at 15 cents each, or at ten cents each if a bundle of them are ordered. Ninety-one pages of an explanation of our position on every question which is of concern to the young workers. The difference between ourselves and other youth organizations; our stand on the question of Militarism; on the economic field—and dozens of others are clearly and in simple language explained in this excellent book. You can use it for a text book in a class, and with ease, because no instructor is absolutely necessary. You can increase your understanding of the movement enormously by using the booklet as a basis for discussion of the various phases of the young communist movement. Not only is it a fine book for those who have just entered the League, and other beginners, but much can be learned from it by those who think that they know all there is to know.

PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW WITH THE LEAGUE!  
DON'T WASTE A MOMENT!

## That Glorious A-a-army!

After the war, instead of the government giving the boys an honorable discharge they framed up on them and kicked them out for nothing and they are trying to keep this hidden from the people and keep them blind as to what the war was about. The capitalists are trying to make slaves out of the poor working class.

I hope this letter will open the eyes of some of the people. They fooled me once, but they can't any more. They framed me in the army and kicked me out because I knew too much for them.

I knew a boy in the army by the name of Jesse Jones. He borrowed a writing pen from a corporal and because he forgot to give it back, the corporal had charges brought against him for stealing his pen and they gave him five years in McNellis Island in this "land of the free." It is time the people began to get wise. They have men today in the federal prisons who ought to be out.—Jack Rabbit, in the Seattle Industrial Worker.

The ruling class is not content with starving the bodies of the children of the workers. It strives to poison their minds. Today more than ever before does the ruling class endeavor to estrange the proletarian children from the proletarian class; to teach them to oppose their own struggling parents, their brothers and sisters. All schools, public and private, in the capitalist countries are strongholds of patriotic and nationalistic propaganda and training. (*The Child of the Worker*.)

## For Those Who Died Unsung

Garlands for the unknown dead:  
Who died unsung,  
Who gave their lives without a groan,  
And their names are not known.

Against the citadels of the high and mighty,  
Against their hired armies  
They advanced with naked fists,  
And their humble lives were crushed  
Under the Iron Heel.

They who rode on the backs of the poor  
Will be thrown to the ground.  
Gallies will be dragged before his judges.  
And old accounts will be settled  
On the Red Day.

Garlands for those who died unsung,  
Romance was not theirs,  
They died under the lash,  
Their hearts lay bleeding on prison stones,  
Their humble lives were crushed  
Under the Iron Heel.

—Simon Felshin.

## Birthdays in February of Political Prisoners

Birthdays in February of political prisoners confined in American "state" prisons are announced by the Workers' National Prison Comfort Club, 2923 Chestnut St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as follows:

At San Quentin Prison, San Quentin, Calif.:  
Feb. 5, Frank Sherman, No. 35768; Feb. 13, P. Gorion, No. 38113; Feb. 18, Math A. Schmidt; Feb. 17, Francis E. McCleneghan, No. 38128; Feb. 19, W. L. Fruit, No. 35715.

At Repena, Calif. (Folsom Prison):  
Feb. 18, Richard Ford; Feb. 21, James McLaughlin; Feb. 26, Earl Eley.

At Leek, Box No. 590, Stellacoom, Washington:  
Feb. 6, Anton Kurachuk;  
At Walla Walla, Washington, Box 526:  
Feb. 21, Eugene Marnett, No. 9414; Feb. 21, Frank Nann, No. 9516.

At 818 Jefferson Ave., Mountville, W. Va.:  
Feb. 27, Tony Stafford, No. 12128 (West Va. Miner).  
Cora Meyer, national secretary, invites friends and sympathizers to send birthday cards and letters to these political prisoners. Money is advisable for gifts. Books and publications to be sent directly from the publishers.

A West Virginia miner writes: "My birthday met with a big success, from the depth of my heart I extend my thanks for the kindness. Each and every greeting from all over the United States was truly appreciated."

## Junior League News

### Line-Up the Junior's Parents

Especially now with the intensification of the external work—the participation in the school struggle of the junior groups, we begin to get reports of systematic sabotage by the parents. "My mother won't let me come to the group any more," sob many of our young comrades. The campaign of publicity waged against the junior section in the case of Leo Granoff, in the case of the National Security League charges, etc., has had to a certain degree a dampening effect upon our junior organization. We must begin now to systematically counteract the fears of the initiators and leaders in this fight. The Junior Comrades under the careful guidance of the leaders must begin immediately to call parents conferences. At these conferences the leaders and children should point out to parents the class character of the public school, the nationalist and religious dope peddled to the children under the guise of education, the necessity of waging constant warfare against these conditions, child labor, etc. These conferences can be made very interesting by dramatic performances and exhibitions of the general life and work of the child in the group.

### Have You a Little Song Book In Your Home?

At last it is here! The song book for which we have all been waiting has finally come off the press and is now on sale to one and all.

The Young Workers League of America has taken the initiative in publishing what is undoubtedly the best song book ever issued by a radical workers' organization. It is called "The March of the Workers," which is the name of one of the songs in the book. Put up in handsome fashion, with a splendid red cover and striking picture on the front, the league can well be proud of its maiden effort in this field.

Do you like the old favorites? They are there. Do you like the songs of the workers all over the world? They are there. Do you like the workers' music of the whole world? And would you like to see many that are new? You bet, and they're in the March of the Workers!

Here is the biggest lot of the year. Fill your meetings and demonstrations with the songs of the workers and let your voices swell to the high heavens. "Send in your order today!" Don't waste any time, because, and this is no advertising bunk, we have printed only a limited quantity because of the expense.

There are two editions. One of them contains words and music and the other contains only the words. The price of the word-music book is \$1.00 per copy, 80 cents in bundles of five or more. The price of the words book is 25 cents per copy, 18 cents in bundles of five or more. Get these splendid books immediately and send in your order to the sole distributing agency in this country, The Young Workers League of America, 1000 N. State St., Chicago, Ill.

## The Farming Youth — A Problem

By MAX SALZMAN.

A workers' and farmers' government: that is the slogan of all Communist organizations throughout the world. To the Young Workers League, it means that we must extend the scope of our activities so that we might reach the youth who toil on the farms and bring them into the league. The conditions of the farming youth and their activities have a great deal to do with the struggle.

Many comrades say that we should not devote much time to winning over the mass of young people on the farms, but they do this because they know nothing of the part the farming youth plays in the class struggle.

In 1922, when the railroad workers and coal miners were in the midst of their struggle to prevent the capitalists from lowering their standard of living, it was the farming youth who played the greatest part in breaking the strikes in many places. The youth on the farms, not directly connected with the class struggle are a fertile field for the capitalists to bend their seeds from. They are not conscious of the fact that they are robbing workers of their jobs. They do not recognize the fact that they are robbing women and children of their right to live.

In the metal mining districts when the bosses decided to cut the wages of the miners, they did not at first order an immediate reduction in the wages of the workers. They knew that to do this meant a strike and so they proceeded to do their dirty job on a different basis. They hired farmers whose conditions had become so bad that they were willing to do anything in order to live, to work in the mines at half the wages the regular miners were receiving. Then they gradually proceeded to displace the workers and thus they have succeeded in lowering the standard of living of the workers without the workers having an opportunity of putting up a fight of any kind.

If one of us would be able to look over the applications for employment in any of the large automobile factories we would find that a majority of the workers there are young people who have come from the farms. Thus we find that the problem of reaching the farming youth is of vital importance to us. We find that the problem of the youth on the farms is interwoven with the problems of the youth in industry.

## IMPROPAGANDA

The Chicago Daily News says: "In the rise to power of the British labor Party there is little to make the shade of Karl Marx smile."

And much less for the Daily News to be joyful about.

"Deny Pope Will Alter Status of the Virgin."—Chicago Tribune Headline.

How gossip travels!—He never even thought of such a thing!

A statistician advises the U. S. spends more money for chewing gum than for books.  
Jack Dempsey must have convinced many people it is more worthwhile to develop the jaw than the head.

VERA REDD.

Uplifting the Masses.

"It is the mass of which the Klan is thinking. It is the standard of this mass which we purpose to defend and lift up."—Dr. W. H. Evans, Imperial Wizard, Ku Klux Klan.  
We don't want them to lift up the masses. For six years they have been lifting up the mass all thru the South—on every tree and telephone post. It's time to let us alone.

"Admirers See Nation's Moors in Kiev, Pinchot."—Headline.  
—Because he can always be found in the bull rushes!

Particular Party Points.

A. P. P. P.

In Horatio Kettle—

Sells tickets fast—

But is slow to settle.

GRACE R.

They now say: Congress has been deathlocked.  
"Ford Says Auto Is Cure For War."—Headline.  
The cure must have been out of use since 1914.  
But to quote Hank exactly: "The development of the automobile is the greatest single instrument for world peace I can think of."

Too bad he hadn't thought of it before the Red peace prize of \$100,000 had been awarded. It is just food enough to whine.

A press dispatch from New York says: "Vehicular accidents in New York streets cost 1,049 lives last year."  
And Hank says: "The auto is the greatest single instrument for world peace." He doesn't mean "world peace"—eternal peace.

Against tickets and dues

J. Burg is a kicker,

But he makes little noise—

When he pays for liquor.

J. A. B.

"Presidential Rooms Start At Banquets."—Headline. And front then on the workers are "felony" with them.

Red Says:

Some workers are peculiar. They don't fight back when they are abused. They're like postage stamps—a little licking makes them stick better.

A sympathetic friend told us this one, which is certainly Old Lady: "Well, little boy, did you see Santa Claus during Xmas?"

Wise Kid: "Aw, ya can't kid me!—Last year they told me there was a Santa Claus, but this year I found out about that guy!"

Old Lady: "You did!"

Wise Kid: "Sure. And when I get time I'm going to find out about this guy Jesus."

A pretty dame

Is little little

She talks so much

And says so little

And right here—four your peace of mind—we will hand out a splendid piece of advice: Subscribe for THE YOUNG WORKER

WALT CARMON.

## Youth or Young Workers?

The recent convention held in Indianapolis by the International Student Volunteer Movement, participated in by some 7,000 delegates, has attempted to lay the foundation for a youth movement in this country that is expected to embrace a half million young men and women between the ages of 14 and 21. Sherwood Eddy, associate general secretary of the international committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, and one of the most prominent leaders in this new youth movement, spoke at the conference in this fashion:

"The youth movement of Europe, like that of Asia, presents the same revolt against the old order. It is an insurgent uprising against materialism, with its amassed wealth and enormous power on the one hand and its grinding toll and poverty of the masses on the other. Over Europe as a whole, one-tenth of the people possess approximately nine-tenths of the wealth, and the remaining nine-tenths have only one-tenth of the wealth. Organized labor and the youth movement of Europe are increasingly rising in protest against recurring war. In a recent convention of the youth of Europe from a score of countries in the Third Democratic International Congress for Peace, some of the leaders of the French youth admitted with shame the wrongs of their military occupation of the Ruhr, while the German youth pressed forward, offering their money, their personal possessions, and their very lives to help rebuild the devastated areas."

Who the German youth were that pressed forward with their money and personal possessions we can well imagine when we consider the present economic conditions. But this playing of Alphonse and Gaston, is typical of the so-called youth movement all over the world. It is not a working class movement which understand the causes and results of the system we live under, but an empty revolt against what they are pleased to call age, everything that is old. It is typically bourgeois, and of that type of the bourgeoisie that can no longer stand the miseries and hypocrisies of a dying capitalism which grows more hideous and vile every day and begins to feed not only upon the workers but also on the small business men, the professional, the doctors, lawyers, teachers and the rest, intellectuals and students.

This revolt is a last attempt to uphold capitalism in some more pleasant form, to feed the people the castor oil with a mixture of root beer. These people are puffed because the big bourgeois do not care for "art" and "culture," but remain what they always were, newly arrived swine.

The Young Communists do not set themselves up as opposed to the old. We are opposed only to the system which is old and has outlived its day. Its rankers are eating it up and the social body stinks to the high heavens. We are in the fight to remove it from the face of the earth and in this struggle we battle by the side of the rest of the working class who are young in spirit and do not fight merely because the bourgeoisie cannot appreciate a prelude by Wagner or a painting by a Greenwich Village nut. We fight because we must fight; otherwise we are submerged to the lower depths, to political, economic and social eddies.

The proposed great youth movement in this country will merely be a silly replica of the youth movement in Europe, which is well exemplified in Germany where it is breaking under the strain of a social crisis. The fighting tendencies of the new American youth movement can well be seen when it is known that the ruck is fattered by the Young Men's Christian Association, a staunch pillar of values as they are, and by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ, another "fighting" body, which gave up the ghost after having published an honest report about the steel strike, following which it was hung to the dogs by the millionaires who had quitted it.

When a crisis comes in the United States, like the one in Germany today, some of the youth organized in this movement will line up with the Communist youth, just as they are doing today in Germany. The rest will vacillate and finally find themselves in the camp of the enemy, of the very ones whom they organized to reform.